Love Link

January 2021

COOPERSVILLE REFORMED CHURCH



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Bible Passage of the Month:

Jeremiah 32:26-27

Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: ²⁷ "I am the LORD, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?

2020 Important Information

Directory: A new printed church directory will be prepared this month. If you have any changes in address, phone number, or family member listing, please call the church office (616-837-8949) by Friday, January 8. We would like to include all regular attenders; please let us know if you are not currently listed and would like to be. Note: Please let us know if you want cell phone numbers and/or email addresses included in your listing.

Offering Envelopes: The boxes of 2021 offering envelopes are in family mailboxes in the church's main lobby. This is also a good time to look into online giving if you would like to save a step. Thank you for your continued financial support this year and please see a deacon if you have any questions. If you no longer use the offering envelopes, please return them to the church office so they may be reassigned. If you currently do not have envelopes but would like to use them, call the church office (616-837-8949) or email tami@coopersvillereformed.com.

Love Link: If you would like to be added to the email list to receive this monthly newsletter, please call the church office or email heather@coopersvillereformed.com.

Congregational Meeting Update

Elders affirmed: Bennett Bassette, Rachael Kunnen, and Matt Mekkes. (3-year terms)

Deacons affirmed: Jason Kunnen, Rory Ribnicky, and Rodney Tibbe. (3-year terms)

The proposed budget for 2021 was approved as presented.

Copies of the 2021 budget and the 2020 financial report are available in the church lobby.

The Ordination and Installation of new Elders and Deacons will be on January 3, 2021, at both morning services.

A very heartfelt *thank you* goes out to the past Consistory members and to the incoming new members. Your sacrifice and service to God is a blessing.

Camp Geneva

2021 brochures for Camp Geneva are available in the church office. The church will pay half of the camp fee for kids who regularly attend and are actively involved. Call the church office (837-8949) for the required voucher code.

Coopersville Reformed Church Endowment Fund

The deacons would like to let the church know that through the vision of a church family we now have an endowment fund created in the name of Coopersville Reformed Church. In future years as this fund grows in value, the deacons will be able to use a percent of this fund each year for help with general fund expenses and/or missions of the church. Please keep this fund in mind as an option for estate planning, memorial contributions, or as you feel led. If you have questions or would like more information on how to contribute, please see a deacon or go to the Coopersville Area Community Foundation website in which this fund is managed under at https://ghacf.org/coopersville/.

Christmas Gifting

Thank you so much for your gifting during this holiday time. We were able to gift a family with so much! The mom was very appreciative of all that they received. And it filled her van!



A Matter of Focus

A lady went to the Pastor and said, "I won't be attending church anymore."

He said, "May I ask why?"

She said, "I see people on their cellphones during the service, some are gossiping, some just aren't living right, they are all just hypocrites."

The Pastor got silent and he said, "OK...But can I ask you to do something for me before you make your final decision?"

She said, "What's that?"

He said, "Take a glass of water and walk around the church two times and don't let any water fall out of the glass."

She said, "Yes, I can do that."

She came back and said, "It's done."

He asked her three questions:

- 1. "Did you see anyone on their phone?
- 2. Did you see anyone gossiping?
- 3. Was anyone living wrong?"

She said, "I didn't see anything because I was so focused on this glass, so the water wouldn't spill."

He told her, "When you come to church you should be focused on God, so that you don't fall. That's why Jesus said, 'Follow me.' He did not say follow other Christians. Don't let your relationship with God be determined by how others relate to God. Let it be determined by how focused you are on God."

Submitted by Dick Van Dop

<u>Airborne</u> by DiAnn Mills Are you looking for a suspenseful Christian read on a cold winter's night? This book will keep you turning page after page as you fly with FBI Special Agent Heather Lawrence on her way to a well-deserved vacation. Shortly into her flight, her hopes for a peaceful vacation suddenly turn south as she is thrust into the role of caregiver and investigator as passengers around her fall ill. Is she the subject of an attack that is causing this mysterious illness among the others around her? Secrets and twists are in store as you discover things are not always as they seem.

<u>Truly, Madly Deeply</u> (fiction) by Karen Kingsbury is book 7 in the Baxter Family Series. This book focuses on Tommy Baxter, son of Reagan & Luke, as he figures out what God wants him to do with his future. With his father being an attorney and grandfather a physician, his future might be mapped out for him but when he feels God calling him to a different profession it's difficult to comprehend just how his decision might impact those he loves.

<u>Point of Danger</u> is the first in the "A Triple Threat" series by Irene Hannon. (fiction) Eve Reilly is a radio talk show host, and she isn't afraid to bring up controversial issues with her listeners. She is used to angry words and backlash. But she calls in law enforcement when a suspicious package arrives on her door step. And that is just the beginning of the menacing harassment. This story takes many twists and turns. You will want to quickly read this novel to discover the outcome. Review by Norene Sattler.

In Pursuit of Love: One Woman's Journey from Trafficked to Triumphant (non fiction) Through her own gripping story of escape from human trafficking, Rebecca Bender teaches us what trafficking in America looks like - and what we can do about it - as she reveals the light of God in even the darkest places. *In Pursuit of Love* is a riveting read that will give you the confidence to pursue your own purpose and take you on a journey to places you never thought possible.

Born and raised in a small Oregon town, all-American girl Rebecca Bender was a varsity athlete and honor roll student with a promising future. Then a predator pretending to be her boyfriend lured her into a web of lies that sent her down a path she never imagined possible.

For nearly six years, Rebecca was sold across the underground world of sex trafficking in Las Vegas. She was branded, beaten, told when to sleep and what to wear, and traded between traffickers. Forced into a dark sisterhood, Rebecca formed bonds with her trafficker and three other women, creating a false sense of family. During that time, God began revealing himself to her. And amid her exploitation, she found the hope she needed to survive.

After a federal raid, Rebecca escaped. Her life was forever changed as she felt the embrace of her heavenly Father guiding her to healing and wholeness. Rebecca soon began to use her own experiences to change the lives of others as she went back into the darkest places she had known - assisting FBI, VICE, and law enforcement across the country in some of their most difficult cases.

Through Rebecca's incredible story of redemption, we remember that our past does not have to determine our destiny.

- 1 Marvin Downs
- 4 Jenna Van Klompenberg
- 9 Diane Rozema
- 11 Lisa Rosel, Ethan Saigeon
- 12 Alexis Bos, Judith Bouwman, Jacob Hill, Mark Mol, David Vander Ark
- 14 Norma Busman
- 16 Peter Bassette, Samuel Bassette, Ava DeVries
- 17 Julie Neumann, Kathy Van Klompenberg
- 18 Kylee Bennink, Tom Harsay
- 19 Casey Van Antwerpen, Curt Visser
- 22 Peterson Keller, Laureen Mayeaux, Kaitlyn Tibbe
- 23 Kevin Wieringa
- 24 Naomi Smoes, Annabelle Steadman
- 25 Zoe Cheadle
- 27 Louise Boom, Sidney Kooistra
- 28 Matthew DeYoung
- 30 Connie Clauson, Lynda Johnson, Owen Schoolcraft
- 31 Kalene Sietsema

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		9:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
January 3	Infant	Beth Baron, Sam Baron	Amber Vander Tuin, Lily Keller
	Toddler	Mary Baird, Nolan Baron	Carmen Langlois, Hailey Hazelton
January 10	Infant	Shelly Visser, Maddi Nobert	Amber Vander Tuin, Ryan Vander Tuin
	Toddler	Mary Baird, Allysha Westveld	April DeMull, Onna DeVries
January 17	Infant	Casey Van Antwerpen, Maggie Van Dop	Amber Vander Tuin, Miniya Lothschutz
	Toddler	Mary Baird, Naomi Smoes	Pete Mast, Hannah Mast
January 24	Infant	Tami Schoolcraft, Owen Schoolcraft	Amber Vander Tuin, Annie Sietsema
	Toddler	Mary Baird, Jenna Casler	LeighAnn DeVries, Abby Mast
January 31	Infant	Julie Kleinjans	Amber Vander Tuin, Ryan Vander Tuin
	Toddler	Mary Baird, Naomi Smoes	Carmen Langlois, Lily Keller

Little Tykes

		9:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
I 2	Leader	Amanda Casler	Michelle Hazelton
January 3	Helpers	Abby Mast	Avery Burk, Miniya Lothschutz
January 10	Leader	Amanda Casler	Michelle Hazelton
January 10	Helpers	Maddi Nobert	Kyren DeVries, Trinity Hazelton
January 17	Leader	Amanda Casler	Michelle Hazelton
January 17	Helpers	Allysha Westveld	Annie Sietsema, Trinity Hazelton
January 24	Leader	Amanda Casler	Michelle Hazelton
January 24	Helpers	Helpers Anneke Bakker Alijah Wilson, Jaxe	Alijah Wilson, Jaxen Smoes
January 21	Leader	Amanda Casler	Amanda Casler
January 31	Helpers	Jenna Casler	Ryan Vander Tuin, Isaac DeVries





January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day	2
					Office Closed	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship		6:00 am Rooted in Prayer	6:15-8 pm W.O.W.		9-2 Women's Work Bee	
NO Crossroads NO One Way	6:00 pm Consistory Meeting	7:00 pm Choir Practice	6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time 6:30 pm Vineyard			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship 5-6:30 pm Crossroad 6:30-8 pm One Way		6:00 am Rooted in Prayer 7:00 pm Choir Practice	6:15-8 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time 6:30 pm Vineyard			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship		6:00 am Rooted in Prayer	6:15-8 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up		Crossroads Retreat NO Crossroads on	
5-6:30 pm Crossroad 6:30-8 pm One Way	7:00 pm Choir Practice		Time 6:30 pm Vineyard		January 24	
24/31 9:00 am Worship	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:45 am Worship		6:00 am Rooted in Prayer				
5-6:30 pm Crossroad 6:30-8 pm One Way			6:15-8 pm W.O.W. 6:30 pm Cuddle Up Time 6:30 pm Vineyard			

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

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